

**PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 468****SENATE BILL NO. 472****By Watson, Marrero, Black****Substituted for: House Bill No. 299****By Overbey, Ferguson, Matheny**

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 71, Chapter 6, Part 1, relative to adult abuse.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 71-6-119, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety and substituting instead the language:

(a) It is an offense to knowingly, other than by accidental means, physically abuse or grossly neglect an impaired adult if such abuse or neglect results in serious mental or physical harm.

(b) In order to prosecute and convict a person for a violation of this section, it is not necessary for the state to prove the adult sustained serious bodily injury as required by § 39-13-102, but only that the elements set out in subsection (a) occurred.

(c) A violation of this section is a Class C felony.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007, the public welfare requiring it.

**PASSED: June 7, 2007**



RON RAMSEY  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE



JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**APPROVED this 21st day of June 2007**



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PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR